

**COMMITTEE: International Committee of the Red Cross**

**COUNTRY: Malaysia**

**TOPIC: Stabilizing the distribution of medical assistance in Afghanistan conflict**

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Afghanistan has experienced a continuous conflict that has occurred since many years ago until now. This conflict has certainly caused various damage to the welfare of people's lives in Afghanistan, there are many cases of violations of human rights, especially women, and health problems in the country are certainly unavoidable, especially when the corona virus began to spread in Afghanistan causing a health crisis in this country are increasing. According to data, the country is experiencing a decline in vaccination rates and there are 1.8 million unused vaccines. Since the Taliban took power in the country, they have experienced a medical meltdown and health services are unable to properly deal with disease and other increasing health problems. There are also about 2,300 health facilities that have closed after the takeover of the Taliban and the freeze on aid funding from international organizations, even doctors in remote areas are also reporting that they are running out of basic medicines. Meanwhile several hospitals are also experiencing problems in water and electricity supply shortages and experiencing overcapacity with the number of patients reaching 150% and high levels of hunger in patients and the surrounding community. They (Taliban) have also caused most of the medical personnel to resign due to working without pay.

The United Nations and several international organizations have made various efforts in dealing with problems in Afghanistan. In September 2021 the UN has launched an emergency fund of \$45 million to prevent the collapse of the health care system in Afghanistan, WHO Chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has visited Kabul, met with Taliban leaders as well as patients and hospital workers, also in November 2021 WHO has conducted a national vaccination campaign in Afghanistan for inoculation against infectious diseases, which can cause paralysis and death, and inoculating polio especially in children. And in 2022 the UN is has calling again for another \$4.4 billion in funding for Afghanistan's humanitarian response plan. While the ICRC has helped provide 48 health care facilities and treated more than 7,600 people injured by guns in the first two weeks of August 2021, but this assistance has been disrupted after the Taliban returned to control of Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, although Malaysia has not decided to recognize the Taliban government, we are very supportive in voicing the humanitarian rights that exist for the Afghan people. Since 2001 Malaysia has had emergency health assistance, recovery, rehabilitation and capacity building projects for the Afghan people, and after the Taliban took control of Kabul, our government has carried out a mission to deliver 5 tons of Malaysian humanitarian aid in various forms such as medicine and food delivered to Kabul Afghanistan. The Malaysian delegation would also like to propose to encourage member countries to stay focused on preventing the collapse of health services in Afghanistan by empowering non-governmental organizations in each country to continue campaigning and promoting humanitarian aid and health donations in Afghanistan. And in terms of government, each country can send aid and cooperate with the United Nations and the ICRC to carry out the project. And the government and stakeholders can have discussions and talk with the Taliban to enter into an agreement to protect human rights in the country and explore the possibility of re-disbursing international funding assistance to Afghanistan.

**Resources:**

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